



NATIONAL TRANSPORTATION SAFETY BOARD

Central Region – Arlington, Texas

RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Who: James Wortman, witness

When: May 22, 2013

In a telephone conversation, Mr. Wortman said that he lived approximately ¼-mile northeast of the crash site and had once worked as an aircraft mechanic. He said he was walking up his driveway to the mailbox, when he first saw the airplane. He said it was initially traveling to the south and then it turned and headed east to west toward the airport. Mr. Wortman said the airplane was approximately 200 feet above the ground; in level flight, and “moving very slowly.” He was unable to estimate the airplane’s speed, but said it was much slower than what he’d expect a Cessna on approach to be. Mr. Wortman said that the airplane’s engine was operating normally until it flew over his street and suddenly “stopped.” He said the engine did not sputter before it stopped. Mr. Wortman did not see the airplane crash but later saw a large plume of black smoke and saw rescue personnel responding to the scene.

Leah D. Yeager

Sr. Air Safety Investigator

National Transportation Safety Board



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RECORD OF CONVERSATION

Who: Britta Rupley, Manager Customer Relations, Fredericksburg FBO

When: May 23, 2013

RE: CEN13FA269

In a telephone conversation, Ms. Rupley stated she was monitoring the pilot's flight from FWS to T82 via Flight Aware. She said she was surprised the pilot had even departed due to the weather. Though Ms. Rupley never talked to the pilot directly, she did hear him make a radio call as he approached the Fredericksburg airport. Ms. Rupley said the pilot reported he was over the Stonewall VOR and transitioning from IFR to VFR. The call came between 1:00 and 1:10 pm. She learned around 1:20 that the airplane had crashed. Ms. Rupley stated the weather at the airport at the time was 800 overcast and visibility was 7-10 miles. It was not windy, storming, or raining at the time.

Leah D. Yeager
Sr. Air Safety Investigator
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